

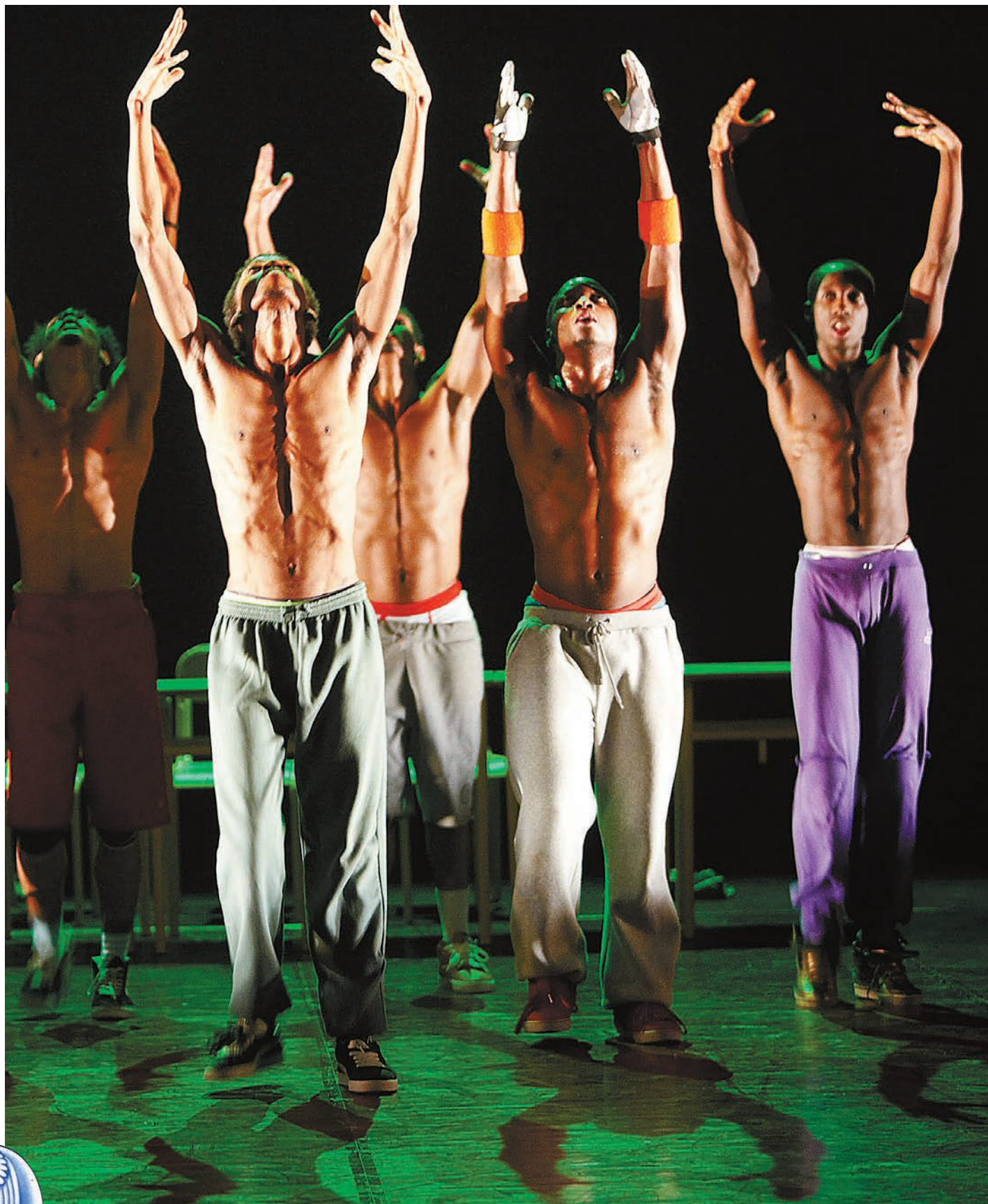


## French art attack

Last year, the Croisements Festival introduced China to contemporary circus and street performance. Now it's promising to introduce the country to "new magic."

The festival, which this year includes 134 events, began last Wednesday and will continue on its Beijing branch through April 22.

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the 'wild wall'

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# Survey aims to mend image of rich heirs

By Zhao Hongyi

Decades of economic prosperity produced a generation of Chinese children who grew up with a silver spoon. However, the antics of some of these heirs – now adults – have severely damaged their public image.

A survey of rich heirs by *China Youth Daily*, a leading newspaper focusing on the nation's youth, finds that the generation may be receiving undue scorn.



Young heirs from the '80s generation are often scorned for their extravagant lifestyles.

Zhou Wei/CFP Photo

The children of China's nouveau riche seem forever linked to tales of drag racing, gambling, drug abuse and crime – prominent acts that have seriously damaged their image in the public mind.

But a recent survey of the group sheds some new light on their lives.

Most rich heirs are between the ages of 18 and 35. There are seven boys for every three girls – likely due to a traditional preference for passing the family fortune to a male heir – and most have been educated abroad.

Nearly half of those surveyed said they believed in true love, and one fourth said they found their partners on their own. More interestingly, 44 percent said they approved of extramarital affairs.

About 60 percent owned two luxury vehicles and 37 percent owned real properties, according to the survey.

Luxury brands were viewed as a

status symbol by some 75 percent, who said they frequently purchase top brands and obsess over luxury goods, the report says.

Business was not attractive to 38 percent, who called their parents' companies "out of date" and tiresome to operate.

Slightly less than half battled their parents over business operation, and 21 percent reported having been challenged by senior employees in their parents' business.

"They feel vulnerable – as if they are forced to inherit the businesses even when they have no interest in it themselves," the report said.

Many bemoaned their business operation training and enrollment in high-class activities like golf, polo and tea preparation.

Tao Tao, a professional media critic, Zhou Dewen, a business researcher at Peking University, and Yu Yi, a free-

lancer, began the survey in 2008. The three interviewed more than 600 rich heirs of business tycoons and government officials.

"Media stories usually focus only on exceptional individuals from this group," Tao said. "Those lone people present a distorted face for this group and only show the public their shortcomings."

But contrary to their public image, rich heirs are quite exceptional in their business knowledge – both legit and not.

"They know how to deal with officials, manage love affairs and withstand the media," he said.

"A lot of people moan about how these rich heirs will simply be handed the results of their parent hard work, but we found many of them are actually quite capable of taking over the company – even if they don't want to," Zhou said.

## Behind the headlines

### Mending the reputation of the rich

Whether it was with the help of their parents or all on their own, it's certain that rich kids have earned the scorn of society.

Whether it's lighting their cigarettes using 100-yuan bills or shouting at people by saying "My father is Li Gang," many over-privileged sons and daughters are doing little to contribute to the country and society that brought their parents wealth

and status.

But there are a few exceptions – a few are following in their parents' footsteps by working hard and giving back.

Among them is Charles Tang.

Tang, 30, has taken the reins of his father's investment firm and is leading it to success.

His dream is that his company will not only be synonymous with money

and fortune but with giving back to the community. Tang said he has started several programs to help underprivileged students to attend school.

Tang is heir to a multi-billion yuan fortune, yet remains down-to-earth. His humble and soft-spoken manner in the workplace has made him a rare and positive celebrity among the rich heirs.

(Agencies)

## Youngest professor named most influential

By Huang Daohen

A 22-year-old undergraduate was selected as one of 12 Chinese elites to receive You Bring Charm to the World, an annual award to honor Chinese people for outstanding achievements.

But the baby-faced, bespectacled Liu Lu is not a nobody. Last year, he solved the difficult "Seetapun Enigma," a mathematical puzzle that went unsolved for more than two decades.

The conjecture was a problem of reverse mathematics related to Ramsey's Theorem and put forward by British mathematician David Seetapun in the 1990s.

Liu's findings also won praise from Denis Hirschfeldt, mathematical professor at the University of Chicago and editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Symbolic Logic*, a global academic authority.

As a result of his work, Liu was promoted to full professor status at Central South University in Hunan Province and became the youngest professor in the country.

The university also gave Liu a grant of 1 million yuan.

The news began a hot debate across the country as a doctoral degree and 15 years of teaching experience are usually needed for full professor status.

Many said the university's decision was reckless. Others called it a cry for attention.

Liu has kept silent. In his speech that night, Liu said he felt pressured but would continue to follow his interest in mathematics.

"I felt very delighted that I had upheld my interests and never gave up," he said.

Among the remaining 11 awards, those in the art and culture category went to actress Ye Deyan, star of the recent blockbuster *A Simple Life*, and fashion designer Jimmy Choo.

The National Grand Theater and Tan Ronggeng, head of the world's largest non-government service club, won the award for public welfare. Top badminton athlete Lin Dan and NBA sensation Jeremy Lin won the sports awards while Minister of Health Chen Zhu and scientists Chungpei Ma and Wang Zhenyi took the scientific awards.

The lifetime achievement award was presented to Taylor Wang, the first Chinese taikonaut who entered the space.

The awards, given annually since 2006, are sponsored by 14 media groups, including Phoenix TV, *Beijing Youth Daily* and China News Service.

# Another special zone

## Gov't gives go-ahead on Wenzhou financial reform

Private investors in Wenzhou who are desperate for worthy projects are finding new hope in the central government's recently green lit "Wenzhou project" – a collection of financial reforms for the city.

But even with their form, the country's financial planners may need to make more progressive steps in interest rate reform and opening of the banking industry.



The State Council has passed a plan to establish an experimental financial zone in Wenzhou.

Xinhua Photo

The State Council gave the go-ahead late last month for a pilot project it hopes will one day become the cornerstone of a nationwide financial reform.

Private investors in the coastal city of Wenzhou are being encouraged to buy into local banks and to set up financial institutions such as loan companies and rural community banks, the State Council said on its website.

The city will also study allowing direct investments overseas by residents as part of a "general financial reform zone" experiment, a significant step toward liberalizing capital account transactions.

Wenzhou, in eastern Zhejiang Province, is known throughout China as the mecca of private entrepreneurship and gray-market lending.

In bringing private funds into the official banking system, the government is hoping that cash-starved small businesses, which are vital to employment, will be able to access financing easily and cheaply.

"Wenzhou private businesses are facing a lot of difficulties. A big flow of capital to small- and medium-enterprises (SMEs) will help resolve their financing problems," said Zhou Dwen, head of the Wenzhou SME Association.

"This is the first step in Chinese financial reform. After this it will have

to spread to all of Wenzhou and then elsewhere in China."

Allowing private investors to lend via legal entities will help the government tame the country's underground lending market, where annualized interest rates can reach 100 percent. The People's Bank of China estimated the market at 2.4 trillion yuan as of the end of March 2010, or 5.6 percent of the country's total lending.

Many private businesses are forced to turn to gray-market lending because they lack the connections to access loans at official rates, which primarily flow from state-owned banks to state-owned enterprises.

### Outflow

As part of the pilot reform in Wenzhou, residents may also be formally allowed to invest abroad directly, a significant step toward liberalizing capital account transactions.

If implemented, the resident foreign investment provision would create a new channel for Chinese retail investors to gain exposure to overseas financial assets, outside the existing Qualified Domestic Institutional Investor (QDII) program.

"It's in line with the overall national strategy of balancing capital inflows and outflows," said Yi Xianrong, a researcher with the Chinese Academy

of Social Sciences in Beijing.

The Wenzhou municipal government issued rules in early 2011 allowing overseas financial investment by Wenzhou residents, but scrapped them two weeks later when the State Administration of Foreign Exchange intervened.

In practice, Wenzhou's asset-hungry investors have already gone abroad. Some were among the real estate investors hurt by Dubai's property crash.

### Pilot zones

It is common practice for the government to try complicated reforms in designated areas before rolling them out nationwide.

Former chairman Deng Xiaoping made the southern boomtown of Shenzhen the country's first "special economic zone," open to foreign investments in the late 1970s at a time when it was just a small village.

In the Wenzhou program, other listed plans include measures for regulating the local private lending market, boosting the private equity sector and encouraging financial products designed for small businesses.

"(The reforms) are not only important for Wenzhou but also meaningful for the whole country's financial reform and economic development," the State Council said, concluding a routine meeting.

banking law states that players seeking to enter the industry must comply with "other prudential conditions," a provision that has virtually blocked private capital from entering the sector.

As Wenzhou's private financial market grows, there should naturally be some reasonable thresholds for private banks to meet, as well as appropriate regulatory measures and exit mechanisms. But the failure of the Wenzhou Overseas Chinese Bank to gain approval to open suggests how formidable these invisible barriers are. (Agencies)

### Brief

## Disney partners with Tencent on animation

Walt Disney has partnered with Tencent and a Chinese state-owned group to develop animated content for the domestic and international market.

Andy Bird, chairman of Walt Disney International, signed an agreement in Beijing with Tencent, the country's biggest Internet company, and the Ministry of Culture's China Animation Group.

Disney will provide training and develop original content for television, movies and digital platforms, it said.

In February, the US and China reached an agreement that gives US filmmakers improved access to China's \$2.1 billion box-office market. Tencent may be able to benefit from the partnership by strengthening its existing businesses such as online gaming, said Bill Huang, a Shanghai-based analyst at DBS Vickers Securities.

"One of the things Tencent can do through this cooperation is to foster animation-related intellectual property on its own platforms," Huang said. "But I can hardly see any meaningful near-term earnings contribution."

China is one of the world's fastest growing film markets. In 2010, the Asia Pacific box office grew by 21 percent, with China accounting for 40 percent of the growth, the Motion Picture Association of America said in February 2011.

## Baidu denies plans to buy Yahoo

Baidu founder and CEO Robin Li said this week that he has no plans to buy another large company.

Baidu, the largest search engine in China, is worth an estimated \$39 billion, while Yahoo, a once-dominant Internet portal, is valued at around \$18.7 billion. The former occupies approximately 80 percent of the Chinese search engine market and its total revenue for 2011 was \$2.3 billion, an increase of 83.2 percent from the previous year.

"Less is more," Li said.

The CEO said that he likes to encourage his fellow workers with one sentence – "we are only 30 days away from bankruptcy." In order to survive and stay on top of technological changes, Li said he must believe that "he and his employees are treading on a thin layer of ice at all times."

Baidu's search technology department employs thousands of China's best Web engineers and improves on more than 30 online technologies daily. The quality and speed of its search engine grows by 0.02 percent each day, or 2 percent per quarter.

(Agencies)

### Analysis

## Laudable project faces obstacles

The Wenzhou program was a hard-win that paves the way for the city's underground lenders to become loan companies servicing small- and medium-sized enterprises.

But the project still has many hurdles to overcome.

The first is that the changes will not be accompanied by a market-oriented interest rate reform.

Interest rates are the most important price signals in financial markets. But there is a double-track price system between the statutory interest rates

at financial institutions such as banks and the interest rates in the private financial market.

With statutory deposit rates long set at low levels, banks have profited without getting better at assessing the risk of lending to small- and medium-sized enterprises.

"It's too easy for banks to make money," Premier Wen Jiabao said.

The second shortcoming is the invisible barriers to the opening of the banking industry.

The country's 1998 commercial



# Living with the Great Wall



Lindesay picks up litter with his friends

## A fascination since childhood

Lindesay met an unusual headmaster when he was 11. The teacher took his students to museums, castles and cathedrals, and “made me realize that the past is more interesting than the present,” Lindesay said.

The headmaster suggested that by one’s bed, one should have three books: the Bible, a prayer book and an atlas.

When Lindesay came to the Great Wall on the atlas, seeing how it wound through mountains and deserts into the sea, it was the start of a dream.

In July 1984, Lindesay – an expert runner – had just completed a 120-kilometer run with his brother Nick along Britain’s Hadrian Wall when Nick said to him, “It would be wonderful if we could run along the Great Wall of China.”

And suddenly, William Lindesay realized: yes, it would be.

“I was at the right age, I had no wife, lots of girlfriends” – he says with a laugh – “no bank loans to pay, and I was still young enough,” Lindesay said. “Most of all, the door to China was open, the journey was possible.”

Three years later, with survival Chinese and a sponsor, he made his way to the Middle Kingdom.

## The Great Wall journey

Lindesay was determined to do more than be a tourist, though. He spent 78 days – starting on April 4, 1987 – traversing the Wall, from Jiayu Guan Pass to Shanhai Guan Pass.

Along the way, he got help from more than 60 households, was accosted by police nine times and was eventually deported. The journey is documented in his book, *Alone on the Great Wall*.

It was in Yulin, Shaanxi Province that Lindesay’s journey ended. Police there told him he was trespassing, and promptly deported him.

More than a decade later, in 1998, Lindesay got a call at his office from someone with a Chinese accent.

“Hello, I’m looking for Wil-

By Wu Hao

William Lindesay dreamed of climbing the Great Wall when he was 11 years old.

In 1987, Lindesay, then 28, finally realized his dream. Ever since, his life has been entwined with this national symbol of China.

He met his wife, a Chinese girl named Wu Qi on the Wall. He’s been detained for hiking forbidden parts. He’s become so familiar with the unexplored parts that he coined the phrase “wild wall” to describe them.

At a March 22 talk hosted by *National Geographic China* magazine, Lindesay spoke about the Wall, commemorating the 25th anniversary of the start of his personal journey.



Lindesay has been intimate with the Great Wall of China for 25 years.

Photos provided by William Lindesay

liam Lindesay.”

“Who is this?” Lindesay recalls replying.

“This is the police office of Yulin.”

“No, no, no, I’m not William,” Lindesay joked.

“Good news, William. Thanks to the reform and opening up policy, we welcome you and your family to visit our beautiful Yulin again.”

The man who called was Zhou Jiping, an interpreter at the Yulin police office, where Lindesay’s original journey stalled in 1987. Lindesay was shocked, and happy. Later, when he returned, he was honored as an honorary citizen.

“It was a remarkable turnaround, from trespasser to honorary citizen. Very unexpected,” Lindesay said. “The changes there were amazing, I visited the Yulin Teachers’ College, and the facilities were better than at Peking University.”

## Two Williams – the Great Wall of past and present

After Lindesay’s book was published in 1989, a journalist who once worked in China wrote Lindesay a letter and gave him a book called the *Great Wall of*

*China*, written by another William. It turned out that Lindesay wasn’t the first foreigner to walk the Great Wall alone.

The man who took the adventure before Lindesay – much before, in fact, at the beginning of the 20th century – was an American explorer named William Geil.

A photo in Geil’s book was taken at an exact location of a photo in Lindesay’s book, with one difference: the tower in Geil’s photo had disappeared.

That got Lindesay thinking: photographs may be a way to preserve parts of the Great Wall before they’re lost to history.

So Lindesay set off on another journey. He visited several dilapidated sections of the Wall and took pictures, which have since been exhibited at the British embassy, the Capital Museum and the Imperial College Museum.

“A documentary based on it is coming out in the near future,” said Wu, his wife.

Lindesay, in 2008, paid homage to Geil, who died in 1925, by visiting his hometown and looking at some of his old possessions. He wants to publicize Geil’s story so that people learn about this great man.

## ‘Wild wall’ and efforts to protect it

When working at *China Daily* and Xinhua News Agency, Lindesay would often cycle for hours to the Great Wall in Beijing during the weekends, taking notes.

His colleagues thought that was boring at first, but they changed their minds when Lindesay showed them his pictures. They were surprised to see the Great Wall so broken down.

“I said, you think the Great Wall is Badaling, Juyongguan, Mutianyu – that’s the Disneyland Great Wall,” Lindesay said. “The real Great Wall is this, and off my tongue fell the phrase ‘wild wall.’”

The phrase was quickly adopted by the Chinese.

“This wall stopped functioning in 1644 when the Manchus abandoned it, but nature claimed it, dust blew from the north every spring, birds dropped seeds in the wind, the grass grew, bushes grew, trees grew, and a wild wall was created,” Lindesay said. “It’s beautiful, it’s authentic, and it’s like an old person with wrinkles and gray hair, much nicer than the 19-year-old from California who has had operations to look young and beautiful.”

After a trip to the Wall in 1998, Lindesay expressed his dismay at all the garbage to his wife. Her reply was very direct: “Either you shut up, or do something.”

He chose the latter.

Lindesay and his friends registered an organization called “International Friends of the Great Wall.” With about 40 members, they hire locals to pick up garbage, distribute thousands of garbage bags and put up signs.

Their website, 5ishanye.com, calls for visitors to protect the Great Wall while visiting.

To Lindesay, the charm of the Great Wall lies in the combination of the structure and its surroundings. If the surroundings are occupied by car parks, restaurants and T-shirt stands, then you’ve lost half of the appeal.

Lindesay received the Officer of the Order of the British Empire from the Queen in 2006 for his longtime efforts to protect the Great Wall, and for his contributions to cultural communication between China and the UK.

“In the last 25 years, I feel very privileged to have explored, researched and made some small contributions to the future of the Great Wall of China,” he said.



# New art forms introduced at Croisements Festival 2012



By Liu Xiaochen

After last year's Croisements Festival introduced contemporary circus and street art to China, this year's festival is bringing another new art form to Chinese audiences: "new magic."

A press conference for Croisements Festival 2012 was held in the auditorium of the French embassy on March 29. The Beijing portion of the festival began on Wednesday and will continue until April 22.

Wang Xiang, founder and art director of Penghao Theater, introduce contemporary circus and new magic as representative of "new art." He said these performances have appeared in the Drama Festival of South Luogu Alley.

The new magic program, "Notte," will be performed by 14:20 Company, with Raphael Navarro and Clément Debailleul.

Attendees to this year's festival also include Morosof Company, with its two main performers, Rafael Moraes and Blancaluz Capella, who will bring a program called "Eppur Si Muove."

Ke Liye, the cultural attache in the Cultural and Educational Cooperation Office of French embassy, said the purpose of introducing new art forms is to improve their development and attract more young people to them.

Other activities include movies, dance, classical music, drama, pop music and exhibitions. There will be at least 134 events in 24 cities across China.

The press conference was also attended by French ambassador Bai Lin, Chinese director Wang Xiaoshuai and the head of the National Ballet of China, Feng Ying.

There will be at least 134 events at this year's festival.

Photos provided by French Embassy



## Role-playing a better world

Model UN theme this year focuses on environmental protection



Motion from a representative at a Model UN event.

Photo provided by China Foreign Affairs University

By Liu Xiaochen

Beijing Model United Nations (BMUN) MMXII's opening ceremony was held at China Foreign Affairs University last Friday. The next day, the former Chinese ambassador to Iran, Hua Liming, suggested that BMUN be modeled after the General Assembly of the United Nations (UNGA).

Hua, who was also a former ambassador to the United Arab Emirates and the Netherlands, said the current model comes from the US and is more for entertainment. He said he thinks the UNGA features more debating, voting and motions.

He said BMUN was a good platform for college students to learn how the UN conducts business.

In the same conference hall, the former Chinese ambassador

to Guinea, Cameroon and Mauritius, Xu Mengshui, gave students advice. Ambassadors should make friends extensively and solve their problems civilly, he said.

This year's theme was "The Future We Want," dealing with sustainability.

"Indeed, this is a very fitting topic for your discussions," Sha Zukang, Under-Secretary-General of the UN, wrote in his congratulatory letter.

Zhang Xiaonan, vice president of the United Nations Association of China, said while sustainability poses a huge challenge, it's a problem that must be addressed.

Specific questions included climate change and disaster risk reduction, green economy and trade, and food trade. After their discussions, students published a draft reso-

lution and made conclusions.

BMUN MMXII is held by the Beijing City Committee of The Communist Youth League, the United Nations Association of China and China Foreign Affairs University. This year's conference lasted three days, from April 6 to 8.

There were 39 colleges and 21 high schools that participated, with more than 400 student representatives.

This BMUN was the ninth held at the school since 2002. In 1995, China Foreign Affairs University introduced this model UN from Yale University.

Besides familiarizing students with the UN, the purpose of the MNUM is to stimulate their interest in the UN and to give them a sense of responsibility concerning foreign affairs.



# Japanese students deepen mutual understanding

By Wu Hao

Preparations are in full swing for the 17th exchange activity of Project Hope International Exchange Association Japan (Pia-Smile), which will be held on the third weekend of April.

The organizing committee comprises Japanese students who are studying in Beijing, led by its current president, Maruyama Chiharu. They've met several times already to schedule events and organize a fundraiser.

Pia-Smile's founder and first president is Koyama Sho, a fast-speaking graduate of Peking University's Guanghua Management College who attended high school in Shanghai and speaks with a southern accent.

## How the smile spread

Koyama was first exposed to Project Hope – a charity committed to rural schools – when he served as a translator and guide for a Japanese woman visiting the Chinese countryside. Koyama was moved by what he saw, and he found several people who shared his interests in promoting rural education.

On April 2, 2006, Pia-Smile was officially born, modeled after Project Hope.

The organization held two exchange activities a semester and occasional fundraisers to raise money for Project Hope schools.

Activities often involved visiting villagers' homes and playing with children.

"One cannot say that he knows China if he hasn't been to those villages," Koyama said. "By visiting households in rural areas, or even staying with them for one night, students can learn much more about rural life. Everyone will leave with life-long memories."

## Getting to know one another

Takizawa Harutosi has been a member of Pia-Smile for a year and a half. Through his travels, he's learned that in some areas, people only get to bathe once a week, and have to travel 2 kilometers by motorbike in order to do so.

"My friend told me he never realized that the water shortage is so serious," Takizawa said.



Students are happy to interact with Pia-Smile volunteers.

Photos by Wu Hao



Pia-Smile volunteer plays with children.

Other participating students were surprised to discover how fractured some families in the countryside are, as parents or children go out to the cities to work. In Japan, parents never leave the family for work.

Some, however, also discovered that the countryside isn't always so desolate. China has developed so fast that some rural areas aren't as poor and dirty as people imagine.

"Every time after an activity, we write an article and send it to a magazine for students who study abroad," Koyama said. "And there are many members who go to western China by themselves to be a part of this activity."

Sometimes, the visits leave lasting legacies.

"We were told that the children still play the games we taught them," Koyama said.

An officer surnamed Liu at Wangjiajin primary school – which will be hosting the activity this month – said the exchanges offer a platform for communication and understanding between Chinese and Japanese people.

## Dilemma and difficulties

However, Liu also pointed out that it's not the lack of books, facilities or money, but the students' lack of confidence in their ability to conquer the education system that is the biggest problem.

"The needs of different schools are different," said Deng Guosheng, director of the Center for Innovation and Social Responsibility at Tsinghua University. "It depends on what kind of

need they want to satisfy: if it's material needs, then they have to find schools in far-away or poor rural areas; if it's needs for idea and management, then they should call for more students with that background."

"Finding the school that is willing to work with us and that will let us explain our goal to them is also not easy," Takizawa said.

"It's easier for us to find a school through the help of Japanese companies, but that clashes with my hope of keeping the purity of Pia-Smile as a student organization," said Maruyama, the current president.

It's been difficult at times. Some schools, for instance, claim that they don't welcome any foreign organizations.

Deng suggested keeping a tight connection and trying to get the support of local youth leagues.

Koyama and Maruyama also seek to keep in touch with companies that have donated to Project Hope before.

## Eyes on the long term

Koyama hopes that through Pia-Smile, Japanese

students and Chinese children can learn from one another; at the same time, the organization might gain insight into how to strengthen volunteer work.

"It's totally understandable that what students can do is very limited, but we'll try our best," Koyama said. "We expect the members of Pia-Smile to continue to volunteer in the future so that when conditions improve, they can do more. We want to train volunteers that can participate in a bigger program in the future."

Maruyama said her biggest hope this year is for volunteers to learn the roots of Chinese culture through household stays. She has another goal, though: to get students from more countries involved in this activity.

"I think every student is part of the 'media,'" she said. "When they go back to Japan, with what they've seen here, they can tell more people who haven't been to China what the real situation is like, and that will contribute to the friendship and relationship between China and Japan."



# Picking the right pair of shades for children

By Annie Wei

Many parents are conscientious about telling their kids to apply lotion before heading out into the sun, but they may fail to realize that a pair of sunglasses is an equally important tool for ultraviolet (UV) protection.

Qin Xiaoli, director of the ophthalmology department of Dachen Chinese Traditional Medicine Hospital, is calling for parents to buy their children sunglasses.

There's some disagreements about when a child should start wearing sunglasses – Qin said local ophthalmologists say six years old while foreign studies have said three – but all agree that because children have clearer corneas and lenses than adults, it's easier for UV rays to damage their retinas.

Qin said research suggests our eyes get 80 percent of our total lifetime exposure to UV rays before the age of 18;



Eye protection should start from an early age. CFP Photo

overexposure is linked to the development of cataracts and other eye diseases.

It's important to equip children with quality sunglasses, especially if they spend more time outdoors, Qin said. In winter, they should wear sunglasses while snowboarding or skiing.

Qin suggested parents select quality sunglasses that

have a UV mark of 400 and avoid toy sunglasses.

Dachen Chinese Traditional Medicine Hospital can conduct eye exams for children, too. Founded by Cheng Kai, a third-generation traditional Chinese medicine practitioner, the hospital sells two kinds of sunglasses for 138 and 238 yuan.

Here are some tips for

selecting sunglasses for your children.

- Choose rubber frames and polycarbonate lenses. Rubber is soft and flexible and polycarbonate has 100 percent UV protection and is shatter-resistant.

- Dark-colored lenses are not a must because the level of UV protection has nothing to do with the lens color. But lenses that can block the sun's high-energy visible (HEV) rays are amber or copper.

- Children like to mimic their parents or older cousins, so they prefer sunglasses that their older role models wear.

- Cartoon-character sunglasses are popular among young children.

**Dachen Chinese Traditional Medicine Hospital**

Where: South side of 2nd floor, Qingqing Shangsha, Building 1, 39 Yuanda Lu, Haidian District

Tel: 6280 0148

ASK Beijing Today

Email your questions to: [weiyi@ynet.com](mailto:weiyi@ynet.com)

**I'm doing an internship at an international school in the Shunyi area for six months. Most of my friends seem to work and live in the Sanlitun area, and I was told that commuting between Sanlitun and Shunyi might not be a good option. Can you tell me how long it would take to get from Shunyi to Sanlitun by bus, metro or any other public transport?**

There are many school-teachers who work in Shunyi but live in Sanlitun. One option is to share a cab. You can also take the subway on Line 10, whose Tuanjiehu stop is very close to Sanlitun.

**I'd like to get out of the city for a day of hiking and suburban air. Do you have any recommendations for places that are accessible without a car?**

There are many hiking clubs you can try, such as Beijing Hikers Club. Or you can go to Dongzhimen bus station and ride out to Miyun District. Some buses will bring you to the wild part of the Great Wall. Just make sure you pay attention to when the last bus back to the city departs. Alternatively you can stay at a country inn to stay for less than 50 yuan per night.

**I am new to Beijing and would like to adopt a puppy or a dog. Do you have any ideas for where I can find a dog shelter that does adoption?**

There are many organizations and individuals helping stray dogs and that would be grateful to find them new homes. However, whether they let you adopt depends on how long you plan on staying in the country. When foreigners leave, many dump their dogs or cats. If you can be responsible for the dog, contact [animalschina.org](http://animalschina.org).

**I am so amazed by the variety of vegetables in the local markets, some that I've never seen before. I want to learn more about them and how to cook them. Any suggestions?**

You can try The Hutong, a workshop often offers cooking classes with experienced cooks who specialize in different regional cuisines.

(By Wei Ying)

## Top art fair welcomes visitors

By Annie Wei

The ninth China International Gallery Exposition (CIGE) opened on Wednesday. Since 2004, the art fair has become one of the top events for Asia's juggernauts of contemporary art.

This year it has brought 60 leading galleries from around the world and is hosting two special programs to promote young Asian artists and not-for-profit art organizations.

Where: China World Trade Center Exhibition Hall, 1 Jianguomen Wai Dajie, Chaoyang District

Open: 10 am – 7 pm (Friday and Saturday, April 13 and 14), 10 am – 5 pm (Sunday, April 15)

Cost: 30 yuan, half-price for those with student ID

Tel: 5218 5188



CFP Photo





# Art of dest

## Artist carves faces into Shanghai h

*By Han Manman*

Can concrete, steel, brick and stone be turned into art? If you are Alexandre Farte, it can.

Better known as Vhils in the art world, the young Portuguese graffiti and street artist carves lifelike faces into walls around the world using a combination of chisels, jackhammers, acid and explosives. He has left his mark on cities across his native Portugal, as well as in major metropolises such as London and Los Angeles.

Most recently, he took his tools to Shanghai.

During his two-month stay, he created several new murals on the sides of ruined homes and walls. His latest street creations are being shown in his exhibition at Magda Danysz Gallery.



### About the exhibition:

Where: Magda Danysz Gallery, 188 Linqing Lu, Yangpu district, Shanghai  
When: Saturday 6 to 9 pm launch part; exhibition daily through May 6.  
Contact: 18616151670

*Works by Vhils in Shanghai*

Photos provided by MD Gallery



# Construction

## Homes and walls



One of the most popular Weibo posts this week has been a series of Chinese faces, old and young, with intense and wonderfully rendered expressions etched into old walls.

The faces were carved by Portuguese graffiti artist Vhils during his two-month stay in the city.

While pop artist Andy Warhol chose to work with the face of leaders who shaped history, Vhils prefers to use ordinary people as his subject matter — showing people who struggle every day with modern life.

"I like the idea of turning ordinary, common people into icons. It contrasts with the reason people create icons in the first place," he said.

Among Vhils' art is the face of one 44-year-old local surnamed Li. Her block used to house 40 families: today it houses four. Li's home is already scheduled for demolition.

Vhils' works can be found throughout Shanghai, though many are hidden behind Moganshan's graffiti wall and the Xiao-nanmen area — Shanghai's "Old Town."

"I try to use the urban environment itself, make it a part of the piece and involve all the people who live in the area. I want my changes to be a real, not artificial, part of the environment," Vhils said.

Each of his graffiti works begin with a rough sketch of the person he plans to portray. He focuses on the main outline and overall shape, filling it in and then getting to work. He uses hammers, chisels, jackhammers and whatever it takes to remove the right parts to create the desired volume, depth and contrast.

By destroying walls, he explores the layers of urban space. He often goes through layers of old paper, worn-out posters, wood paneling and brick to bring his stencil to life on the wall. He reconfigures city structures to not only display portraits of its people but to lay bare the history of the building.

His desire to turn destruction into art was born from a childhood spent in a small town near Lisbon. When the 25-year-old Vhils was grow-



ing up, Portugal was going through a rapid period of change.

"I grew up in an environment which was deeply affected by the Carnation Revolution of 1974. It was the main industrial hub of the capital and was strongly influenced by the left and the extreme left," he said.

"Walls were used as a medium of communication during the revolution — there were murals, paintings and stencils everywhere."

But things began to change when Portugal joined the European Union in 1986. The country tried to move past its revolution that brought an end to the fascist dictatorship of Marcello Caetano.

The era was full of sharp contrasts between revolutionary murals and mass advertising, and that conflict inspired Vhils to create. As a teenager, he was already using the city's streets and trains for his graffiti art.

"Graffiti was a language that enabled me to express and explore many things, and eventually enabled me to observe and portray the complexities of the urban environment as I see them," he said.

After graduating from the Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design, Vhils began to think about taking his artwork to a new level. He began to experiment with ways to combine paint and demolition to peel off the outer layers of walls and old buildings.

Using construction tools, he exposes and confronts the architectural surface as it narrates the story of the city itself. Using etching acid and bleach, he turns old walls into a canvas for deconstruction. Then, using hammers, chisels and pneumatic drills, Vhils refines the texture, dimension and layers of his sketch.

After years of effort, Vhils gained prominence in 2008 when his face carved into a wall appeared alongside a picture by street artist Banksy at an urban art festival in London. A photograph of him creating the work appeared on the front page of *The Times*.

Soon after, many famous art organizations around the world were inviting him to create on their property.

For Vhils, the process is more important than the final exhibition.

"In the act of excavating, it's the process itself which is expressive — more so than the final result. It's a process of trying to reflect upon our own layers," he said.

"I never have and never want to have absolute control over what I'm doing. I like the unexpected and the uncertain. I am interested in working with what one can't control and exploring the impermanence of matter," he said.

Vhils was recorded while developing his Shanghai creations for a documentary that will show at the exhibition.



# 798 hosts retrospective of cartoon master



Zhang Guangyu

By Charles Zhu

While many are familiar with the classic cartoon adaptation of the story of the Monkey King, few know it was one of China's first color cartoon movies by Zhang Guangyu, a pioneer of decorative art in China.

TZ 100 in 798 Art Zone is hosting a retrospective exhibition for Zhang that will be open through April 25. The collection includes more than 1,000 cartoons, sketches, watercolor paintings, wash paintings, comic strips, murals, animations, stamps, furniture and book illustrations.

The Department of Art at Tsinghua University lent *Beijing Spring* from its private collection for the retrospective, and Madam Liao Jingwen, widow of Xu Beihong, loaned Zhang's *The Spring of the Purple Stone Street*.

Among his most unforgettable pieces is *Roaming in the West*, a series of satirical cartoons created in 1945 to expose the social problems of the day. It was exhibited in Chongqing in 1945, in Hong Kong in 1947 and in Beijing in 1957.

The exhibition also includes *Havoc in Heaven*, a segment from the classic novel *Journey to the West*, and *Sister Liu*, a clever girl with a gift for singing from a Zhuang folk story.

Osamu Tezuka, a Japanese cartoonist, reportedly left medical school and began drawing *Astro Boy* after watching Zhang's *Havoc in Heaven*. He later came to

China and drew cartoons with the Monkey King meeting *Astro Boy*.

Zhang Guangyu was born in 1900 and died at the age of 65 in 1965. He was the founder of modern Chinese cartoons and decorative art. His work was guided by a principal that "it has to be new, but it also has to be enduring."

"It is imperative to combine things foreign with things native; there should not be priority of either in any sense," he said.

Many critics consider Zhang on par with Qi Baishi in his artistic contributions. But he is foremost remembered as a gifted design artist.

Zhang Ding, a painter and the designer of China's national emblem, said he drew inspiration from Zhang about artistic ideas. Zhang negated the ideas of Liang Sicheng, another important artist and architect of modern China, who proposed using a flat piece of jade with a hole in the middle as the emblem. Zhan supported using Tian'anmen as the basic image and won support from Premier Zhou Enlai and Zhang Ding.

"Modern" Chinese furniture is another of Zhang's designs. He blended Western modernism with traditional Chinese formalism to create six of the pieces on display. They are novel in structure and color even by today's standards.

Zhang also participated in designing stamps to commemorate the 40th anni-

versary of the October Revolution of 1957 and the 10th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1959. Stamp designers said it was Zhang who proposed drawing the border of the stamps in the shape of Tian'anmen to suggest people looking at the Soviet Union through the eyes of China.

To Ye Qianyu, a professor at the Central Academy of Art, Zhang was a "big brother." He said Zhang was the first cartoonist and the most respectable artist he had ever met. In the 1930s, Zhang was the greatest supporter of the cartoonist community in Shanghai.

Zhang Ding called the master the pride of Asia. The seeds he sowed in the cartoon image of the Monkey King opened up new schools of decorative art. He said Zhang's art was among the most influential in the 20th century and called for greater promotion of his work.

Ding Cong, a cartoonist 16 years younger than Zhang, said his aesthetic tastes were influenced by Zhang even though the latter never taught him. He said Zhang was a pure artist who was not concerned with fame or money, and that only a highly moral man could produce such quality work.

Yuan Yunfu, a contemporary artist, said Zhang and his work are eternal. "As society increases its demand for aesthetic consumption, it is all the more necessary to study and promote Zhang's artistic spirit," he said.



Zhang's iconic adaption of *Monkey King* is a pioneering effort in the Chinese comic world.

Photos provided by TZ100



“Many people believe that if they want to change their life, the only way to do it is to move to another place to work and study.”

# Young women chase their dreams to China



Director Gloria Su



Rebecca Par, a British musical actress, rehearses for a performance during the documentary.

Photo provided by Gloria Su

By Liu Xiaochen

*Else to Where* is a documentary following four foreign women, most in their 20s, who live in Beijing and work as an actress, a model, a journalist and a staff member at an IT company.

Director Gloria Su, who chose these women, tells how they live when removed from the familiar environment of their own countries. The film also explores the changes in their lives as they adapt – or fail to adapt – to life in China.

People in Beijing tend to live in their own world and ignore everything else. It's not because Beijingers are isolated, but because they simply don't care and lack the patience to get to know others.

That has been Su's impression of the capital.

She decided to shoot a documentary to show how life has changed in the last 10 years, a time when people were still curious about foreigners and the outside world. She hopes the lives of the four women she filmed can give viewers pause to think about their own experiences.

The core ideology, according to producer Ren Jun, is that "life is elsewhere." Many people believe that if they want to change their life, the only way to do it is to move to another place to work and study.

Maria Makarenko, Adi Ezra, Nillah Nyakoa and Rebecca Par were the four young women selected. Each has been living in China for more than a year. Su followed their daily lives from 2010 to 2011 and recorded their experiences in work, assimilation, love and hope.

Overcoming difficulties is central to their everyday life, as they tried



Adi Ezra (left), Gloria Su (second from left), Nillah Nyakoa (third from left) and guests at the screening

Photo by Xi Jiangyue

to adapt to Chinese habits, solving problems in love and life on their own without the support of parents and friends.

Makarenko came to Beijing to study when she was 18. Outside school, she works as a model. She has a closet full of shoes and clothes and adapts her style to the requirements of her work. Makarenko said Beijing is a fresh and interesting place, and that it offers more opportunities to make money.

Ezra is from Israel and works for an IT company. She has made a lot of friends during her three years in Beijing. They often meet up to share their lives after work. When holidays from her home country come around, she celebrates only with her Israeli friends. She said she

expects to have more new experiences in Beijing and that she believes she can adapt quickly.

Nyakoa is a Kenya woman working as a journalist at China Radio International (CRI). She puts all her passion into work. In the movie, she is seen interviewing a troupe of Chinese and foreign performers. She is good at haggling and has learned a lot of Chinese words related to the art.

Par is a British musical actress who lives alone with her cat. Her daily life is very simple, but she becomes another person on the stage. She burns with enthusiasm at each rehearsal. Unfortunately, she has had a hard time adapting to life in Beijing, which she considers very different from life in the UK.

Su has worked with films that

involve foreigners since 2008, when she first came to Beijing. She believes her background as a sociology major at Wuhan University helps make her suitable for documentary film.

After graduating in 2006, Su prepared by reading books on movies, watching more than 1,000 movies a year and working part-time. She came to Beijing from her hometown in Shanxi Province four years ago to chase her dreams.

"Beijing is a city with a lot of opportunities, but you can only seize them if you make an effort," she said.

One of her first jobs in the city was at an actor workshop. A Canadian teacher Patrick Pears needed an assistant and hired Su to work on his film's post production. The job helped her to learn more about the process of making a movie.

Su chose to make her first film about women because it is the topic she knows best. She selected the four foreigners to follow because each represented a different reason why people come to Beijing. Ezra comes to Beijing to experience a different culture. Makarenko came to study. Par came just to go abroad. Nyakoa was interested in Chinese culture and prepared a lot before she came.

Their reasons for coming also shape their ways. While Ezra often communicates with Chinese people and makes friends in the local community, Par lives in isolation in Sanlitun and does not have any Chinese friends.

The movie also reflects the changing environment of Beijing as it becomes an international city. Ezra finds a Jewish restaurant where she can celebrate her religion's holidays, while Par finds work in Beijing is harder than ever to come by.



# Men's fashion, inspired by the ocean

By Annie Wei

Winter has just ended, but designers are already preparing next winter's collections.

Xiang Yaodong, who graduated from the ESMOD International Fashion Group last year, released his first collection two weeks ago.

Inspired by the ocean and called "Deep Blue Discovery," Xiang uses not only marine animal patterns but also tries to adopt marine animals' physiological structure when it comes to lines on the clothes.

Unlike many other new designers, Xiang's show had something new and surprising. It started with a diver's outfit that accentuated a man's muscles. Then the clothes came out, in deep-ocean blue with patterns of tropical fishes and corals.

Traditional men's winter clothes are boring, with stale colors, but Xiang's were bold and bright, with blue, orange, brown and white, and big color blocks and prints.

Xiang was the first designer signed by Brand New China (B.N.C.), an indie design brand store that aims to cultivate local talents. His show was part of B.N.C.'s new project The First Collection.

The project aims to create a bridge between the market and young designers. B.N.C. will collect a designer's first collection, produce and sell part of it. Through that, the designers will hopefully learn something about the market while giving consumers exposure to fresh talent.

The show was held in Blue Zoo at the south gate of Workers Stadium, which boasts the longest underwater tunnel in Asia. Guests included celebrities and representatives from Lane Crawford, Water Stone and ARRTCO collection.



Pink and orange are the new black for men.



Jean jumpsuit with lighting patterns



This jacket's pattern is designed to resemble.



The wool coat seems to have many layers.



Print top  
Photos provided by B.N.C.

## Where to buy Xiang's first collection:

### B.N.C.

Where: B09A, The Village North, 19 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang District  
Open: 10 am – 9:30 pm  
Tel: 6416 9045

## Multi-brand select shops

### Water Stone

Where: B008 Nali Patio, 81 Sanlitun Bei Jie, Chaoyang District  
Open: 10 am – 8 pm  
Tel: 5208 6055

### ARRTCO collection

Where: WB-103, Ground floor, Guomao Mall, 1 Jianguomen Wai Dajie, Chaoyang District  
Open: 10 am – 9 pm  
Tel: 6505 2288



# Delicious noodles in 100 varieties

By Annie Wei

Noodles have long been a godsend for busy types in need of a quick meal: easy to prepare, savory and filling. They are also a simple and inexpensive option for workday lunches or late dinners after work.

Among the different kinds of noodles available, Shanxi Province's daoxiaomian, knife-shaved noodles are the most famous.

Traditionally, chefs will prepare daoxiaomian by holding a small ball of dough in one hand and shaving slices into a large pot of boiling water. Authentic slices should be thick and wide, guaranteeing a chewy texture.

The real secret lies in the sauces, which often include eggplant, pork and beef. The sauces are made of select ingredients and stewed for a long time.

Another popular choice is saozimian, from Shaanxi Province. It's a slim noodle served in broth with cubed meat, potatoes and carrots, tasting sour and spicy but not greasy. The broth is the soul of saozimian. A bowl of authentic saozimian will have more broth than noodles.

Both Shanxi and Shaanxi provinces offer great noodles, but Shaanxi



Shaanxi saozimian

CFP Photos



Shanxi daoxiaomian

is more famous for its pulled noodle and paomo, a kind of bread.

Shanxi, meanwhile, has 100 varieties of noodles, as the region produces cereal crops and grains like buckwheat, millet and wheat. It also has more than 30 kinds of methods to make noodles, like grasping, rolling to flatten, pulling, shaving, slicing, paring, pressing, folding and pinching.

Other famous Shanxi noodles include jiupian, finger-snipped noodles, which has a similar texture as daoxiaomian but is shorter and thinner; youmian kaolaolao, thin noodle sheets made from a grain called naked oat, then rolled up and cooked in a

bamboo steamer.

Below are noodle restaurants and bars where one can find these and many other kinds of noodles:

## Mianxiang Bafang

Decorated in Shanxi style, this restaurant presents with small servings of daoxiaomian starting at 11 yuan. As it's located in a college district, it gets overcrowded during lunch hour.

Where: 2F, Huanyuan Shiji Shangwu Lou, 88 Shuangqing Lu, Haidian District

Open: 11 am – 2:30 pm

Tel: 8252 6818

## Xiaomen Daxiaomian

Clean small eateries are hard to

find in the Xidan area, but this restaurant is relative clean, and its prices are reasonable. A small bowl is 10 yuan, and a large bowl is 12 yuan.

Where: 31 Xiaojiangfang Hutong, Xicheng District

Open: 9 am – 10:30 pm

Tel: 6605 3373

## Shunkouliu

The restaurant is known for its dozen options of noodles. The bread starts from 8 yuan, noodle around 19 yuan and mipi, rice noodles, at 13 yuan.

Where: 3/F, Mall 2, Sanlitun Soho, 8 Gongti Bei Lu, Chaoyang District

Open: 9 am – 10 pm

Tel: 5925 1303

# Burgers and coffee in vintage setting

By Guo Yao

Don't be confused by the logo, which is derived from the image of the bicycle brand Forever. The old bike shop between Minzu University and Beijing Foreign Studies University in Haidian District is actually a student-friendly coffee shop, founded by a British man but now run by Zhang Guang.

The room feels like a museum, where you'll find a sewing machine, tin toys and movie posters from the 1980s.

Burgers (ranging from 24 to 30 yuan) are the specialty. One of the more popular ones comes with crispy onion rings, tender beef, sliced tomatoes and a house salad on the side.

The vintage breakfast (55 yuan) is a feast that should be savored. It comes with two eggs, two sausages, mushrooms, baked beans, toast and a nice cup of tea or coffee.

This cafe is known for its huge servings of coffee (35 yuan for 700



Burgers, 24 to 30 yuan

milliliters), which is recommended for those planning to stay for the afternoon.

The cafe also serves egg and potato (32 yuan); apple and kiwi smoothie (32 yuan); turkish kebabs (42 yuan) and apple pie (28 yuan).

To meet the demands of the surrounding student population, it also provides cheaper food deals during

lunchtime ranging from 32 to 80 yuan. Themed parties are organized nightly. For example, Beer Night falls on Fridays and Sundays are Film Night.

## The Old Bike Café

Where: 3/F, 5 Weigongcun Jie, Haidian District

Open: 9 am – 11 pm

Tel: 5982 4407



The cafe's logo is from the popular bicycle brand Forever.

Photos by Guo Yao



## Dining



## Classic and modern cocktails

Join us at Aria Bar for an exciting and unique opportunity to journey through a selection of classic and modern cocktails such as the perfect Manhattan, mojito, Asian Mary and bajito.

Where: Aria Bar, China World Hotel, 1 Jianguomen Wai Dajie, Chaoyang District

When: April 1-30

Tel: 6505 2266 ext. 36



## FIZZtastic Mother's Day at Vasco's

Celebrate Mother's Day with an award-winning Sunday Brunch at Vasco's on May 13.

Every mom who attends will receive a scarf. Show your mother how much you love her with this treat of great foods, delightful gifts and an attractive raffle.

Enjoy appetizing seasonal treats made of spring vegetables, fresh seafood and fine meats, as well as dim sum, Beijing duck, barbecued favorites and a personal serving of delicious Boston lobster. Master chefs will present a tempting mix of European and Asian highlights and boundless desserts.

Continue the day with a sunny digestive stroll up Wangfujing Street, walk around Tian'anmen Square and discover new

areas around the Forbidden City. Wangfujing is a great place to spend a Sunday afternoon.

Where: Vasco's Restaurant, Hilton Beijing Wangfujing, 8 Wangfujing Dong Dajie, Dongcheng District

When: May 13, 11:30 am – 3 pm

Tel: 5812 8888 ext. 8411

Email: linda.wu2@hilton.com, mon.li@hilton.com



## Pink charity breakfast

The Westin Beijing Chaoyang will hold its fourth annual "Pink Charity Breakfast" on Mother's Day, May 13 to collect donations for mothers with breast cancer.

The charity breakfast is organized with Beijing Ladies Golf, a new golf organization of female expats that hosts regular cocktail parties and golf tournaments to support mothers with breast cancer.

There will be a pink chocolate waterfall, pink sweets, pink cakes and pink champagne. Each guest will receive a free bottle of pink champagne and a rose.

Where: 2nd Floor, Westin Beijing Chaoyang, 7, Dongsanhuan Bei Lu, Chaoyang District 100027

When: 11:30 am – 3 pm, May 13, 2012

Cost: 428 yuan, 458 yuan, 498 yuan (15 percent gratuity)

Email: mandy.zi@westin.com

## Strawberry at Grand Millennium Beijing Lobby Lounge

A spring approaches, celebrate with strawberries at the Lobby Lounge. Join us for delicious strawberry cheesecake, fresh strawberry tarts and pies and home-made strawberry jam. Enjoy the strawberry-themed afternoon tea every day.

Where: Lobby Lounge, Grand Millennium Beijing, 7 Dongsanhuan Zhong Lu, Chaoyang District

When: 2:30-5:30 pm, daily until April 30

Cost: 48 yuan

Tel: 8587 6888 ext. 3011



## Yao Chi awarded by Time Out

In recognition of its exceptional service, creative Cantonese food, magnificent design and fine facilities, the Yao Chi Chinese Restaurant at Grand Millennium Beijing has been named the 2011 The Best Recommended Cantonese Restaurant by Time Out magazine.

Chung Fai Men (right), master chef of Yao Chi, and Nick Wu, the F&B operations manager, accepted the award on behalf of Grand Millennium Beijing.

## Rent

## Luxury apartment at Palm Springs

This Luxury apartment is located at 8 Chaoyang Park South Street in Palm Springs and comes with luxury furnishings. The 184-square-meter three-bedroom apartment is fully decorated and will make a wonderful home.

Tel: 13810684468

Email: info@goodviewpro.com

## Airline



## Jetstar Asia appoints new CEO

The Board of Jetstar Asia is pleased to announce Barathan Pasupathi's appointment as the airline's new chief executive officer.

Pasupathi brings 16 years of experience from senior roles in the energy, aviation and finance industries, including three years as Jetstar Asia's first chief financial officer.

"We are very pleased to have an executive of Pasupathi's caliber to lead Jetstar Asia into the next phase of its development," said Denis Choo, chairman of Newstar, Jetstar's holding company.

"His 10 years' experience in the oil and gas industry has equipped him with detailed knowledge of the leading cost driver in aviation – namely fuel – and his familiarity with supply chain management gives him a sharp sense of process optimization," Choo said.

Paul Daff will continue as acting chief executive officer of Jetstar Asia until Pasupathi starts on July 2.



## British Airways offers Club World customers one-way upgrade

From now until April 30, customers from Shanghai or Beijing booking a British Airways' Club World business class flight to the UK or Europe can enjoy the ultimate in luxury in the airline's new First class for an additional 1,000 yuan.

Club World business class fares from Shanghai start at 29,700 yuan, plus 1,000 yuan for an upgrade to First; and 30,500 yuan, plus 1,000 yuan from Beijing.

UK destinations include London, Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Manchester, Newcastle and Jersey. European destinations include Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.

This upgrade offer is available for bookings between now and April 30 for travel before August 31. There is no limit on the number of upgrades customers can receive.

The upgrade offer is available for either the outbound or inbound sectors from or to China, subject to availability.

(By Jackie Zhang)

## Hotel





Fri, Apr. 13

**Nightlife**

**Lafidki, Kikiilimikilii, Water Sark**

Lafidki is an audio visual artist and a French musician with a Cambodian background. He will give listeners a shock with abstract electronic music, noises and multiple rhythms that are full of imagination. Kikiilimikilii is the founder of Paris Troupe. His

music is full of mystery. Water Sark is a radio ballad of the band Eyes Behind. The three performed last August in China.

Where: Hot Cat Club, 46 Fangjia Hutong, Dongcheng District

When: 9 pm

Admission: Free

Tel: 6400 7868

**Drama**

**The Animals and Children Took to the Streets**

*The Animals and Children Took to the Streets* was created in 1927 by an English troupe that wanted to point out social maladies through black humor. The play's modern version was honored with the best entertainment award in London last year, and as the best work at the Edinburgh

Sun, Apr. 15

Fringe Festival. It has also been shown at many art festivals in other countries.

Where: The National Center for Performing Arts, 2, Chang'an Jie, Xicheng District

When: 7:30 pm

Admission: 150-200 yuan

Tel: 4006 103 721



**Exhibition**

**Un Moi, Des Mots**

This exhibition at the French Culture Festival is to memorialize Genevan philosopher and writer Jean-Jacques Rousseau. Ten words are selected to represent the French language. This exhibition, held by the French Ministry of Culture and Communication, is part of the International French Day and the French

Mon, Apr 16

Culture Festival.

Where: 18 Gongren Tiyuchang Xi Lu, Chaoyang District

When: Until April 30,

10:30 am - 7 pm

Admission: Free

Tel: 6553 2627



Sat, Apr. 14

**Exhibition**

**Invisible Cities**

Craig Kirk was born in Birmingham, UK. He graduated from the Norwich School of Art, where he studied animation and graphic design. Kirk's inspiration comes from signs, the blue sky and regular trips to less developed provinces in China, where he often finds unique opportunities for photography. His photos are simple and colorful, aiming to portray the world in a way that is normally unseen. The theme of this exhibition comes from Italian writer Italo Calvino's book *Invisible Cities*. Kirk will show this world from another angle.

Where: CCD300 Contemporary Art and Design Center, No. 300, Caochangdi Art District, Chaoyang District

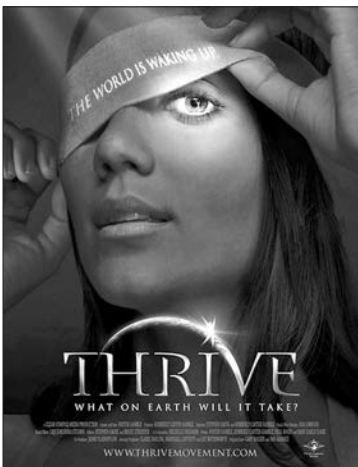
When: 1-5 pm

Admission: Free

Tel: 6432 9300



Tue, Apr. 17



**Movie**

**Thrive (2011)**

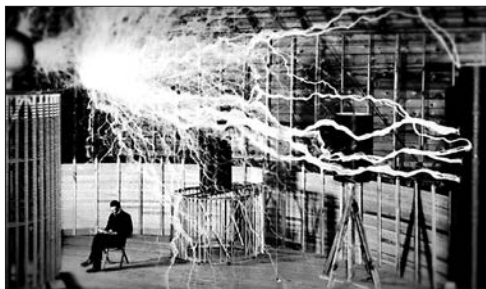
An unconventional documentary directed by Stephen Gagne and Kimberly Carter Gamble, *Thrive* exposes how the world runs and how economic development influences people's lives.

Where: No. 3 Club, 43 Bei Sanhuan Lu, Haidian District

When: 7:30 pm

Admission: 15 yuan

Tel: 8211 5288



Wed, Apr. 18

**Concert**

**Night of Debussy - Jean-Efflam Bavouzet**

French piano maestro Jean-Efflam Bavouzet, with his graceful and profound musical style, presents this solo concert. Passion for music pushes Bavouzet to constantly explore new tunes. He has cooperated with many world-class troupes, including the BBC Symphony Orchestra and London Philharmonic, and played alongside famous maestros.

Where: Forbidden City Concert Hall, inside Zhongshan Park, 4 Zhonghua Lu, Dongcheng District (west of Tian'anmen Gate Tower)

When: 7 pm

Admission: 60-580 yuan

Tel: 6559 8285



Thu, Apr. 19

**Nightlife**

**Swan Punch 2012**

The Candidate and Scarred by Beauty are two popular Danish bands that are beginning their China tours. The Candidate, founded in 2009, is under the label Napalm Records Company. Scarred by Beauty, founded in 2006, plays songs from several genres, including reggae, hip-hop, soul, death metal, hard rock and house dance.

Where: Tango, 79 Hepingli Xi Jie, Dongcheng District

When: 8 pm

Admission: 100-150 yuan

Tel: 6215 9844



(By Liu Xiaochen)





# Business city has its tourist sites, too

## Landscape beauty

Among the city's scenic sites, Mt. Yandang and Nanxi River are the best. Mt. Yandang is noted for its sheer peaks, grotesque rocks, ancient caves and cascading waterfalls. The mountain has long been reputed as "Famous Mountain on the Sea" and "The Unique Spot under the Heaven."

Nanxi River, meanwhile, is known as "the cradle of Chinese landscape paintings." Visitors can enjoy a leisurely float on a bamboo raft, or hike ancient trails. Villages on the side are constructed with the idea of fengshui firmly in mind.

## Poetic Jiangxin Islet

However, the famous Nanxi River is not the "mother river" of Wenzhou. That distinction goes to Oujiang River, which has an islet that is known as a place of immortals.

Jiangxin Islet is one of the four famous islets in China, and a nationally designated AAAA tourist spot.

The islet covers an area of about 71,333 square meters, a rectangle that runs long from east to west and narrow from north to south. It has been famous since the Northern and Southern Dynasties (420-589).

Three structures on the islet stand out from the rest: the Jiangxin Twin Towers and Jiangxin Temple, which rests between them.

The Jiangxin Twin Towers were once used as lighthouse and appraised as a "historic lighthouse" by the Inter-

By Bao Chengrong

Wenzhou, known as a commercial port city and for its wealth of businessmen, has more to its history than commerce. Its long history and scenic geographic location make it a worthwhile visit for those seeking culture and nature as well.



The Nanxi River Scenic Area



The Mt. Yandang

**Getting there:** Take a plane or train to Lucheng District, Wenzhou. Then get on the ferry to Jiangxin Islet and go back to the urban district via taxi.

**Accommodations:** The cheapest family inn on Jiangbin Lu is 99 Inn. If you want to reserve a hotel to enjoy the sunrise and sunset at Jiangxin Islet, try River View Hotel, a four-star hotel located close to the back gate of West Garden.

**Tips:** The restaurant Corner of Paradise at the intersection between Wu Ma Street and Fu Qian Street is great.

**Other recommended spots for spring:** Nanji Island (one of the 10 most beautiful islands in China) and the National Forest of Tongling Mountain in Wencheng County.

national Association of Navigation Mark in 1997.

The towers are divided into a West and East. The West Tower is similar to many others in China, with spires and bells. The East Tower, however, is unique: a tree sits atop it. From afar, it looks like the other is wearing a green wig.

Jiangxin Temple may not be as big as some other temples in China, but it's known as a place where poets and other masters made their mark.

## Local food

Walk around the alleys around the central urban district and you'll come upon several eateries. There are seven special dishes and items that travelers shouldn't miss, and it starts with the wonton.

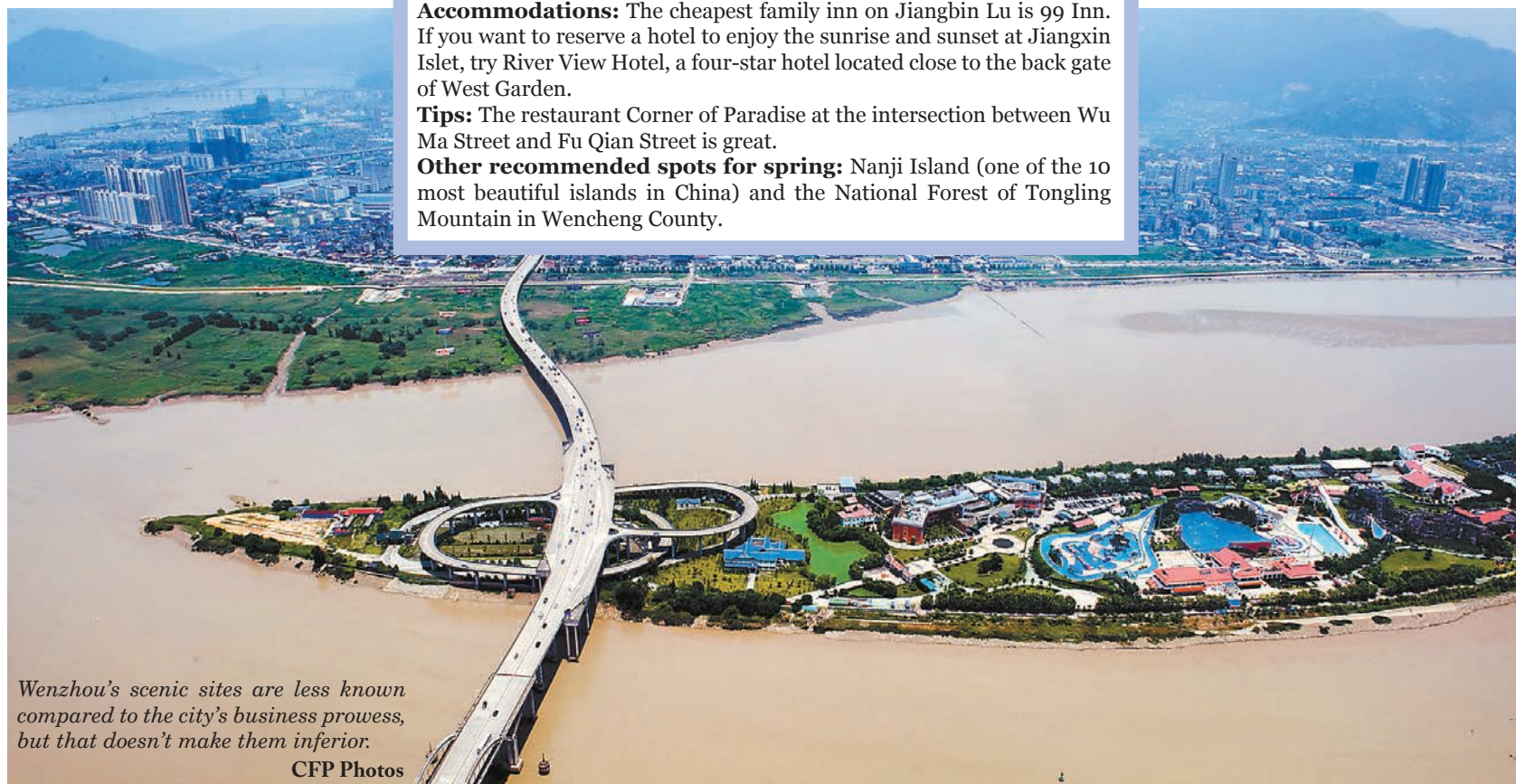
Tall Man Wonton is the only restaurant that sells Wenzhou's special wontons, which uses thinner wraps and less meat than in other places.

Short-man sponge cakes are also exclusive to Wenzhou. They are made with glutinous rice pork fat, sugar and sweet-scented Osmanthus.

The steamed sponge cakes are pleasant on the palate.

Tangyuan, also known as glutinous rice balls, are best served at the restaurant Xianqian. The cook there uses a special secret ingredient.

As a seaside city, Wenzhou also has many seafood dishes. Two dishes that have left deep impressions for travelers are the fish balls and fried fish with three slices.



Wenzhou's scenic sites are less known compared to the city's business prowess, but that doesn't make them inferior.

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